

LITC NEWS

Issue 1

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2007 Grantees Conference - New Orleans, LA - December 5-7

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Marriott New Orleans



Reservations and Registration

If you have not made your reservations at the Marriott New Orleans we encourage you to do so right away. Keep in mind that amenities such as free meeting space, coffee breaks, and more are based on filling our room block. So if you haven't made your reservation at the Marriott, **please do so today**. The rate for the Conference is \$130.00. Make reservations by phone or online. You may **call** the Marriott toll free at 800-228-9290 or 800-654-3990 and refer to our event as IRS Low Income Taxpayer Clinic Conference.

If you have not completed the registration form do so right away and e-mail it to Gerard Pieger at gerard.pieger@irs.gov

LITC Conference Schedule Designed with You in Mind

The conference is less than a week away and the final preparations are well underway. Conference registration will take place in the Acadia Foyer on the third floor. The desk will be staffed for registration from 3:00 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. Monday and again at 7:00 a.m. Tuesday. The opening session of the Conference will begin at 8:00 a.m. Tuesday for new clinics and at 1:15 for all clinics in the Acadia ballroom on the third floor.

On Tuesday December 5, the Marriott will be sponsoring a reception for hotel guests. The reception will be an opportunity for the clinics to talk and network.

We have scheduled several plenary sessions including **IRS Updates, State of the LITC Program, Developing a Relationship with the Tax Court**. There will also be two mandatory workshops on **Private Debt Collection** and the **Questionable Refund Program**.

Back by popular demand, Karen Sheely – the Local Taxpayer Advocate in Indiana – will again close out the LITC Conference with an exciting session entitled **Controversial Controversies: A Case Study Discussion**.

Breakout sessions will include the following: **Pro Bono Recruitment, Incorporating ESL Outreach into Your Clinic Activities, Tax-Related Legal Research, Power of Attorney Issues and several Focus Groups**.

Personal Safety and Emergency Planning

The city's Convention and Visitors Bureau has advised tourists to "feel confident in strolling the sidewalks of the French Quarter" and other areas such as the Garden District. At the same time, the CVB says visitors should be mindful of their surroundings and refrain from venturing into the sparsely populated areas, especially at night. These are precautions that one would be expected to take in any big city.

2007 Filing Season

Split Refunds

Taxpayers have more options and flexibility this year for choosing how to receive their 2006 federal income tax refund. Taxpayers can:

- Split their direct deposit refund among two or three different accounts, with up to three different U.S. financial institutions;
- Direct deposit their refund into a single account; or
- Receive their refund in a paper check.

Splitting your refund is easy. Use IRS' new Form 8888, Direct Deposit of Refund, to split your refund among two or three different accounts. Form 8888 is not required if you want IRS to direct deposit your refund to a single account; you can use the direct deposit line on Form 1040. With split refunds, you now have a convenient option for managing your money — sending some of your refund to an account for immediate use and some for future savings — teamed with the speed and safety of direct deposit. It's a win-win.

Questions about the Conference

Submit questions to bridget.mallon@irs.gov.